

THE REHEARSAL.

1. They told us from *Holland* 3 Years ago, That the *Sacramental Test* wou'd be taken away.
2. The *Church* will not be *Awaken'd* by it.
3. And the *Dissenters* will not rest *Satisfy'd* with it,
4. They already (upon the Supposition) Claim the *Whole Administration*. And propose a *Test* to Exclude every *Church-Man*.
5. This *Test* must throw down our *Liturgy*, *Articles*, *Homilies*, and the *Act of Uniformity*.
6. They are beginning their *Old Trade* again, to *Talk Men* out of their *Places*. They want the *Fleet*.
7. Their desire to *Repeal* the *Sacramental Test*, shews they were not *Pleas'd* which their *Occasional Conformity*.
8. *Puffs* will be *Puffs* still.

SATURDAY, January 22. 1708.

(1.) *Country-man*. YOU have said nothing yet, *Master*, of this *Grand Project* now a foot, which is the *Talk of the Town*, to *Repeal* the *Sacramental Test*. The *Observer* pushes it on. And several *Pamphlets* have been wrote for it, as *Inconsistent* with the *Union*, &c.

Rehearsal. I told you *Vol.* 1. N. 81. Jan. 12. 1705. That this *Project* was then a *Brewing*, long before the *Union*, I had my *Information* from *Holland* (the best *English* news comes from thence) and gave you the very words of the *Harlem Courant* of Aug. 27. 1705. which tells, That it was the *Resolution* of the *Juncto* in *London* to take away the *Sacramental Test*, &c.

Country-m. But you shou'd say something now. Are you unconcern'd in this *Matter*?

Rehearsal. Yes. *Country-man*. Because I know not which is *Best*, whether that *Test* shou'd be taken away, or not?

(2.) *Country-m*. That's strange! Have you forgot the *Park-keeper* and the *Dear Stealer*? Do you think it for the *Park-keeper's* *Security* to have the *Pales* of his *Park* pull'd down?

Rehearsal. Yes. If the *Noise* of it wou'd *Awaken* him out of his *Lethargy*. He might *Defend* his *Park* better without *Pales* when he is *Awake*, than with them when he is *Asleep*.

Country-m. I'm afraid you'r *Crusty*, *Master*. And do you think, That the *Pulling down* of the *Pales* wou'd not *Awaken* the *Park-keeper*? Or that he may not be *Awaken* without it?

Rehearsal. I think neither *With* it, nor *Without* it?

Country-m. Then you give over the *Cause*.

Rehearsal. It is *Long* since I did that.

Country-m. What did you *Struggle* for then? What have you been *talking* of the *Church* for all this time?

Rehearsal. I have done my *Duty*. And if that will not do, who can help it? There is a *Fate* in it!

Country-m. But you must never give over a *Good Thing*. You know not when the *Lucky-Hour* may *Come*.

Rehearsal. When the *Sky* falls, we shall *Catch Larks*—It was a *bad Fate* upon *Cassandra*, but worse upon the *Trojans*, that she was not to be *Believ'd* till the *Ruin* came.

Suppose the *Sacramental Test* were taken off. What then? *Country-Man*.

(3.) *Country-m*. Why then the *Dissenters* wou'd Certainly be *Pleas'd*. For then they wou'd be *Capable* of all *Places of Power* and *Trust*, *Equal* to *Church-Men*. And sure they wou'd never *Desire* more.

Rehearsal. I thought so! Thou talk'st like an *Errant Church-Man*! I told You that all this wou'd not *Awaken* them! And you have found an *Argument* already for *Folding* of the *Hands* to *Slumber*! For *Iffachar* saw that *Rest* was *Good*! I told you from the beginning, That the *Dissenters* wou'd never be *Pleas'd* with *New Acquisitions*, but in *Order* to get more. And I blame them not.

not. For all Mankind wou'd do the same. Wou'd not every Party in the World desire to be *Uppermost*? Wou'd any Refuse the *Means*, when it was put in their *Power*? When they were *Encourag'd* and *Courted* to't! I writ not against *Them* now, I write against the *Church*.

Country-m. This is a *Hyp-Day* with you. But did any of the *Dissenters* ever say, That they wou'd not be Content to be upon the *Level* with the *Church*?

(4.) *Rehears.* Say so? Wou'd you have them *Fools*, to *Proclaim* their *Design*, and set the *Church* upon her *Guard*? Yet such *Fools* they are, and yet she will not *Believe* them! But not *Fools* neither, for they know she cannot be *Awaken'd*. They have *Enchanted* her! She loves to be *Bully'd*, and see what will *Come* of it!

The *Observer* of the 8th *Instant*, *Num.* 94. has already *Proclaim'd* it, as the *Herald* of the *Party*, That they will not be Content with an *Equal Share* in the *Administration*, but that they must have *All*. And not one *Church-man* in the *Nation* shall be *Employ'd*. But turn'd out of all *Posts* in *Church* and *State*. These are his *Words*. And he *Proposes* a *New Test* to discover any who have one *Drachme* of *Church-Blood* in them. And that this be sent to *Purge* the *Universities* and the *Clergy*.

Country-m. What *Test* is that he wou'd be at?

Rehears. He calls it, a *Test* to *Oblige Men* of *Arbitrary Principles*, either to *Renounce* them, or *Quit* their *Posts* in *Church* and *State*.

Country-m. So then, This will be a *Thorough Reformation*! Not only to *Preclude* these *Arbitrary Men* from *Coming* into *Places* hereafter, but to *Turn out* from what *Posts* they are in, in the *Church* as well as in the *State*.

(5.) *Rehears.* And how *Easy* is it to Call any body a *Man* of *Arbitrary Principles*! The *Meaning* is the *Doctrine* of *Passive Obedience*. And then out Go every one of the *Clergy* of *England*, for they have all subscrib'd the *Homilies*, as Enjoin'd by *All* of *Parliament*. And the *Six* last *Homilies* against *Rebellion* set up *Passive Obedience* to the very *Height*, and Answer all the *Pretences* that ever any *Whigg* offer'd for *Resistance*, and *Condemn* them *All* to the very *Pit* of *Hell*. Especially the *First* and *Second*, which are *Particularly Order'd* to be *Read* every 30th of *January*, or a *Sermon Compos'd* upon the same *Argument*, as the *Rubrick Directs*, as it stands *Confirm'd* even since the *Revolution*. So that the *Book* of *Common Prayer* must Go too. And our 39 *Articles*, where these *Homilies* are all *Inserted*. And the *Act* of *Uniformity* which *Enjoins* the *Subscription* of these *Articles*. All these must be *Un-sworn* by the *Test* the *Observer* *Pro-*

poses. And the taking away the *Sacramental Test* is only in *Ordine ad*— To make the *Rest* go down the more *Glib*.

Country-m. You will never get any one to *Believe* that any such thing will be *Propos'd*.

(6.) *Rehears.* I believe so too. That's what I say. But have I ever *Guess'd* wrong yet, as to the *Encroachments* of the *Dissenters* upon the *Church*? Have they not *Inch'd* it and *Inch'd* it on faster than I told you? You wou'd not believe that *Such* and *Such* Men wou'd be *Talk'd* out of their *Places*! Men who had *Merited* as much from *England* by their *Services* at *Sea* and *Land* as any who ever fill'd those *Posts*. But they were *Church Men*! *Le Hogue*, *Vigo*, *Gibraltar*, and *Beating* the *French-Fleet* were nothing when done by a *Church Man*! And *Port Mahone* is with them such another *Crown-Nest* as *Gibraltar*, because not done by a *Whigg*! They *Buzz* about the *Town* that *Leak* must follow *Rook*. And that there are others as *sitting* as the *Lord High Admiral* himself. They spar'd not his late *Royal Highness*, but *Attack'd* him by *Name* all the while he was in that *Great Post*, and were not out of *Hopes* to have *Talk'd* Him out too! How many *Battles* have I had with the late *Observer* upon this *Head*, for his laying all *Miscarriages* upon the *Prince*, and his *Invidious Comparisons* of him with the *Count de Tolouse Admiral* of *France*? — In short they want the *Fleet* into their *Hands*! They think not themselves *Right* in their *Geers* till then, And then you will remember *Cassandra*!

(7.) *Country-m.* They long *Eluded* the *Sacramental Test* by their *Occasional Conformity*. And having fulfill'd that *Law* (as they said) Yet now they wou'd have it taken away. Why? Did not *Occasional Conformity* sit *Easy* upon their *Stomachs*? But it is *Inching*!

(8.) *Rehears.* Where are those now, who told us how many *Occasional Conformity* had brought over to the *Church*? You see they are *Wearry* of it! You may *Judge* then how *Sincerely* they came into it! *Puffs* will be *Puffs* still!

ADVERTISEMENT S.

IN the *Rehearsal* of the 8th *Dec.* last, *Num.* 18. Mr. *Patrick Middleton* is Nam'd (with two others) But I am since Inform'd I have done him wrong, in Naming him with them. Therefore I ask his *Pardon*, and make him this *Reparation*.

AN Account of the late Establishment of *Presbyterian Government* by the *Parliament* of *Scotland* Anno 1690. Together with the *Methods* by which it was settled, and the *Consequences* of it: As also several publick *Acts*, *Speeches*, *Pleadings*, and other *Matters* of *Importance*, relating to the *Church* in that *Kingdom*. To which is added a *Summary* of the *Visitation* of the *Universities* there; in a *Letter* from a *Gentleman* at *Edinburgh* to his *Friend* at *London*.